

IN THE CLAIMS:

- 1           1. (Withdrawn) A fusion transcript consisting of a homologue cross-over between two  
2 different genes with more than 80% sequence homology in certain regions, in particular regions  
3 of cross-over.
- 1           2. (Withdrawn) A fusion transcript according to claim 1, wherein the two genes are the  
2 genes of SCCA1 and SCCA2.
- 1           3. (Withdrawn) A full length fusion transcript protein between SCCA1 and SCCA2  
2 having switched reactive site loops compared to basic promoter.
- 1           4. (Withdrawn) A substantially full length fusion transcript protein between SCCA1 and  
2 SCCA2 having switched reactive site loops compared to basic promoter.
- 1           5. (Withdrawn) A fusion protein according to claim 4 coded by one or more of exons 2 -  
2 7 of SCCA1 gene fused to exon 8 of SCCA2 gene.
- 1           6. (Withdrawn) A fusion protein according to claim 1 coded by exon 2 - 7 of SCCA1  
2 gene fused to exon 8 of SCCA2 gene.
- 1           7. (Withdrawn) A fusion protein according to claim 4 coded by one or more of exons 2 -  
2 7 of SCCA2 gene fused to exon 8 of SCCA1 gene.
- 1           8. (Withdrawn) A fusion protein according to claim 1 coded by exon 2 - 7 of SCCA2  
2 gene fused to exon 8 of SCCA1 gene.
- 1           9. (Withdrawn) A fusion protein according to claim 5, wherein the protein sequence is

2	MNSLSEANTK	FMFDLFQQFR	KSKENNIFYS	PISITSALGM	VLLGAKDNTA
3	QQIKKVLHFD	QVTENTTGKA	ATYHVDRSGN	VHHQFQKLLTE	FNKSTDAYE
4	LKIANKLFGE	KTYLFLQEYL	DAIKKFYQTS	VESVDFANAP	EESRKKINSW
5	VESQTNEKIK	NLIPEGNIGS	NTTLVLVNAI	YFKGQWEKKF	NKEDTKEEKF
6	WPNKNYKSI	QMMRQYTSFH	FASLEDVQAK	VLEIPYKGKD	LSMIVLLPNE
7	IDGLQKLEEK	LTAEKLMEWT	SLQNMRETCV	DLHLPRFKME	ESYDLKDTLR
8	TMGMVNIFNG	DADLSGMTWS	HGLSVSKVLH	KAFVEVTEEG	VEAAAAATAVV
9	VVELSSPSTN	EEFCCNHPFL	FFIRQNKTNS	ILFYGRFSSP	

1           10. (Withdrawn) A DNA sequence sequence coding for a fusion SCCA1/SCCA2  
2 protein.

1           11. (Withdrawn) A DNA sequence comprising the nucleotide sequence of exon 2 – 7 of  
2 SCCA1 fused to the nucleotide sequence of exon 8 of SCCA2.

1           12. (Withdrawn) A DNA sequence according to claim 11, wherein the nucleotide  
2 sequence is

3	ATGAATTCAC	TCAGTGAAGC	CAACACCAAG	TTCATGTTCG	ACCTGTTTCCA
4	ACAGTTCAGA	AAATCAAAAAG	AGAACAACAT	CTTCTATTCC	CCTATCAGCA
5	TCACATCAGC	ATTAGGGATG	GTCCTCTTAG	GAGCCAAAGA	CAAACTGCA
6	CAACAGATTA	AGAAGGTCT	TCACTTTGAT	CAAGTCACAG	AGAACACCAC
7	AGGAAAAGCT	GCAACATATC	ATGTTGATAG	GTCAGGAAAT	GTTTCATCACC
8	AGTTTCAAAA	GCTTCTGACT	GAATTCAACA	AATCCACTGA	TGCATATGAG
9	CTGAAGATCG	CCAACAAGCT	CTTCGGAGAA	AAAACGTATC	TATTTTTACA
10	GGAATATTTA	GATGCCATCA	AGAAATTTTA	CCAGACCAGT	GTGGAATCTG

11	TTGATTTTGC	AAATGCTCCA	GAAGAAAGTC	GAAAGAAGAT	TAACTCCTGG
12	GTGGAAAGTC	AAACGAATGA	AAAAATTAAA	AACCTAATTC	CTGAAGGTAA
13	TATTGGCAGC	AATACCACAT	TGGTTCTTGT	GAACGCAATC	TATTTCAAAG
14	GGCAGTGGGA	GAAGAAATTT	AATAAAGAAG	ATACTAAAGA	GGAAAAATTIT
15	TGGCCAAACA	AGAATACATA	CAAGTCCATA	CAGATGATGA	GGCAATACAC
16	ATCTTTTCAT	TTTGCCTCGC	TGGAGGATGT	ACAGGCCAAG	GTCTTGAAAA
17	TACCATACAA	AGGCAAAGAT	CTAAGCATGA	TTGTGTTGCT	GCCAAATGAA
18	ATCGATGGTC	TCCAGAAG CT	TGAAGAGAAA	CTCACTGCTG	AGAAATTGAT
19	GGAATGGACA	AGTTTGCAGA	ATATGAGAGA	GACATGTGTC	GATTTACACT
20	TACCTCGGTT	CAAAATGGAA	GAGAGCTATG	ACCTCAAGGA	CACGTTGAGA
21	ACCATGGGAA	TGGTGAATAT	CTTCAATGGG	GATGCAGACC	TCTCAGGCAT
22	GACCTGGAGC	CACGGTCTCT	CAGTATCTAA	AGTCCTACAC	AAGGCCTTTG
23	TGGAGGTCAC	TGAGGAGGGA	GTGGAAGCTG	CAGCTGCCAC	CGCTGTAGTA
24	GTAGTCGAAT	TATCATCTCC	TTCAACTAAT	GAAGAGTTCT	GTTGTAATCA
25	CCCTTTCCTA	TTCTTCATAA	GGCAAAATAA	GACCAACAGC	ATCCTCTTCT
26	ATGGCAGATT CTCATCCCCA				

1           13. (Withdrawn) A plasmid comprising the nucleotide sequence corresponding to one or  
2 more of exons 2 - 7 of SCCA1 gene fused to exon 8 of SCCA2 gene.

1           14. (Withdrawn) A plasmid comprising the nucleotide sequence corresponding to exons  
2 2 - 7 of SCCA1 fused to the nucleotide sequence of exon 8 of SCCA2.

1           15. (Withdrawn) A plasmid comprising the nucleotide sequence corresponding to one or  
2 more of exons 2 - 7 of SCCA2 gene fused to exon 8 of SCCA1 gene.

1 16. (Withdrawn) A plasmid comprising the nucleotide sequence corresponding to exons  
2 2 - 7 of SCCA2r gene fused to exon 8 of SCCA1 gene.

1 17. (Withdrawn) A plasmid according to claim 13, comprising the nucleotide sequence:

2 of claim 12	ATGAATTCAC	TCAGTGAAGC	CAACACCAAG	TTCATGTTCCG
3	ACCTGTTCCA	ACAGTTCAGA	AAATCAAAAG	AGAACAACAT
4	CTTCTATTCC	CCTATCAGCA	TCACATCAGC	ATTAGGGATG
5	GTCCTCTTAG	CAACACTGCA	CAACAGATTA	AGAAGGTTCT
6	CAAGTCACAG	AGAACACCAC	AGGAAAAGCT	GCAACATATC
7	ATGTTGATAG	GTTTCATCACC	AGTTTCAAAA	GCTTCTGACT
8	GAATTCAACA	TGCATATGAG	CTGAAGATCG	CCAACAAGCT
9	CTTCGGAGAA	TATTTTTCACA	GGAATATTTA	GATGCCATCA
10	AGAAATTTTA	GTGGAATCTG	TTGATTTTGC	AAATGCTCCA
11	GAAAGAAGAT	TAACCTCTGG	GTGGAAAGTC	AAACGAATGA
12	AAAAATTAAA	CTGAAGGTAA	TATTGGCAGC	AATACCACAT
13	TGGTTCTTGT	TATTTCAAAG	GGCAGTGGGA	GAAGAAATTT
14	AATAAAGAAG	GGAAAAATTT	TGGCCAAACA	AGAATACATA
15	CAAGTCCATA	GGCAATACAC	ATCTTTTCAT	TTTGCTCGC
16	TGGAGGATGT	GTCCTGAAAA	TACCATACAA	AGGCAAAGAT
17	CTAAGCATGA	GCCAAATGAA	ATCGATGGTC	TCCAGAAG
18	CT	AGAAATTGAT	GGAATGGACA	AGTTTGCAGA
19	ATATGAGAGA	GATTTTAACT	TACCTCGGTT	CAAAATGGAA
20	GAGAGCTATG	CACGTTGAGA	ACCATGGGAA	TGGTGAATAT
	CTTCAATGGG			GATGCAGACC

21 TCTCAGGCAT GACCTGGAGC CACGGTCTCT CAGTATCTAA AGTCCTACAC  
 22 AAGGCCTTTG TGGAGGTCAC TGAGGAGGGA GTGGAAGCTG CAGCTGCCAC  
 23 CGCTGTAGTA GTAGTCGAAT TATCATCTCC TTCAACTAAT GAAGAGTTCT  
 24 GTTGTAATCA CCCTTTCCTA TTCTTCATAA GGCAAAATAA GACCAACAGC  
 25 ATCCTCTTCT ATGGCAGATT CTCATCCCCA, and deposited at ECACC under deposition  
 26 number ECACC 01031315.

1 18. (Withdrawn) A protein expression system for production of SCCAI/SCCA2 fusion  
 2 protein.

1 19. (Withdrawn) A recombinant bacteria comprising a plasmid according to claim 13.

1 20. (Withdrawn) A recombinant bacteria comprising a plasmid according to claim 14.

1 21. (Withdrawn) A recombinant E. coli comprising a plasmid according to claim 13.

1 22. (Withdrawn) A recombinant E. coli comprising a plasmid according to claim 14.

1 23. (Withdrawn) A method for detecting the gene rearrangement forming the  
 2 SCCA1/SCCA2 fusion protein using a cDNA cloning and sequencing analysis of tumor DNA.

1 24. (Withdrawn) A method for detecting the gene rearrangement forming the  
 2 SCCA2/SCCA1 fusion protein using a cDNA cloning and sequencing analysis of tumor DNA.

1 25. (Withdrawn) A method for detecting the gene rearrangement forming the  
 2 SCCA1/SCCA2 fusion protein using a Southern blot-technology applied on tumor DNA.

1 26. (Withdrawn) A method for detecting the gene rearrangement forming the

- 2     SCCA2/SCCA1 fusion protein using a Southern blot-technology applied on tumor DNA.
- 1             27. (Withdrawn) A method for detecting the gene rearrangement forming the  
2     SCCA1/SCCA2 fusion protein using a PCR-analysis technology.
- 1             28. (Withdrawn) A method for detecting the gene rearrangement forming the  
2     SCCA2/SCCA1 fusion protein using a PCR-analysis technology.
- 1             29. (Withdrawn) A method for detecting the gene rearrangement forming the  
2     SCCA1/SCCA2 fusion protein using an amino acid sequencing technology.
- 1             30. (Withdrawn) A method for detecting the gene rearrangement forming the  
2     SCCA2/SCCA1 fusion protein using an amino acid sequencing technology.
- 1             31. (Canceled)
- 1             32. (Withdrawn) A method for detection the SCCA2/AI fusion protein using Western  
2     blotting.
- 1             33. (Withdrawn) A monoclonal antibody specific for SCCA1/SCCA2 fusion protein.
- 1             34. (Withdrawn) A monoclonal antibody specific for SCCA2/SCCAZ fusion protein.
- 1             35. (Withdrawn) A polyclonal antibody reactive with SCCA1/SCCA2 fusion protein.
- 1             36. (Withdrawn) A monoclonal antibody specific for SCCA2/SCCA1 fusion protein.
- 1             37. (Canceled)

38. (Withdrawn) An immunoassay using a monoclonal antibody or polyclonal antibody specific for SCCA2/SCCA1 fusion protein for detecting the presence and concentration of SCCA2/SCCA1 fusion protein.

39. (Currently Amended) A method for diagnosing the presence or absence of a squamous cell carcinoma by detecting the presence and concentration of the SCCA1/SCCA2 fusion protein in a human sample using a monoclonal antibody specific for the SCCA1/SCCA2 fusion protein only, said monoclonal antibody having no affinity for SCCA1 or SCCA2, and wherein the SCCA1/SCCA2 fusion protein is coded by the exons 2-7 of the SCCA1 gene fused to exon 8 of the SCCA2 gene the amino acid sequence of the SCCA1/SCCA2 fusion protein being:

MNSLSEANTK FMFDLFQQFR KSKENNIFYS PISITSALGM VLLGAKDNTA  
QQIKKVLHFD QVTENTTGKA ATYHVDNRGN VHHQFQKLLTE FNKSTDAYE  
LKIANKLFG E KTYLFLQEYL DAIKKFYQTS VESVDFANAP EESRKKINSW  
VESQTNEKIK NLIPEGNIGS NTTLVLVNAI YFKGQWEKKF NKEDTKEEF  
WPNKNITYKSI QMMROYTSFH FASLEDVQAK VLEIPYKGKD LSMIVLLPNE  
IDGLQKLEEK LTAEKLMWEWT SLQNMRETCV DLHLPRFKME ESYDLKDTLR  
TMGMVNIFNG DADLSGMTWS HGLSVSKVLH KAFVEVTEEG VAAAAATAVV  
VVELSSPSTN EEFCCNHPFL FFIRQNKTNS ILFYGRFSSP (SEQ ID NO: 1).

40. (Withdrawn) A method for diagnosing the presence or absence of a squamous cell carcinoma by detecting the SCCA2/SCCA1 fusion protein in a human sample.

41. (Canceled)

1 42. (Withdrawn) A kit comprising a SCCA1/SCCA2 fusion protein antibody to be used in the  
2 determination of the presence or absence of squamous cell carcinoma (SCC).

1 43. (Withdrawn) A kit comprising a SCCA2/SCCA1 fusion protein antibody to be used  
2 in the determination of the presence or absence of squamous cell carcinoma (SCC).

1 44. (Withdrawn) A kit according to claim 42, in that it further comprises antibodies  
2 related to SCCA1 and/or SCCA2.

45-50. (Canceled)